

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 BIB-01 /034 W

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R 251300Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO AMCONSUL MILAN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7202

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, YE

SUBJECT: GTE PROJECT

REF: MILAN 0144

1. JEGHMAN VERY PLEASED TO GET REFTEL, PROPOSES FOLLOWING:

A) AS PRELIMINARY ANY VISIT TO SANA, STUDIES AND OTHER MATERIALS DESCRIBING PRESENT AND PROSPECTIVE INTERNAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM OF YAR WILL BE POUCHED TO MILAN FOR GTE REPS.

B) YARG INTENDS CREATE SEPARATE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY TO HIVE OFF THIS FUNCTION FROM MINCOMMUNICATIONS.

C) WHEN (A) AND (B) ACCOMPLISHED, GTE SHOULD PLAN VISIT HERE BY TECHNICAL TEAM TO DEFINE A PROPOSAL. JEGHMAN NOT IN POSITION TO MAKE THIS MUCH MORE DETAILED. ESSENTIALLY HE ENVISIONS MANAGEMENT CONTRACT FOR GTE WHICH WOULD INVOLVE USING LOCAL REVENUE TO INSTALL EXPANDED DOMESTIC TELEPHONE FACILITIES, CARRY OUT TRAINING, SHARPLY IMPROVE DEPENDABILITY OF SERVICE. HE BELIEVES THAT THIS INTERNAL FUNCTION COULD POSSIBLY BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE EXTERNAL SERVICE, TOO.

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COMMENT: PROPOSAL IS FAR-REACHING AND WILL NOT BE

EASY TO SELL WITHIN YARG. MINCOMMUNICATIONS WILL BE PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT TO CONVINCE THAT ITS PUBLIC SERVICE ROLE CAN BE BEST CARRIED OUT BY PRIVATE FOREIGN CONCERN. JEGHMAN SAYS HE HAS GENERAL CONCURRENCE OF PRESIDENT HAMDI FOR HIS IDEA, BUT FEEL THIS IS MORE LICENSE TO EXPLORE THAN TO ACCOMPLISH. JEGHMAN ALSO DISCOUNTS ANY PROBLEM ARISING FROM ARAB BOYCOTT. BELIEVE COURSE OF ACTION OUTLINED ABOVE IS REASONABLE ONE, HOWEVER, AND IF (A) AND (B) TRANSPIRE, TECHNICAL TEAM WILL HAVE GOOD BETTING PROPOSITION FOR TIME, EXPENSE AND DIFFICULTY WHICH STUDY WILL ENTAIL.
RANSOM

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